Connecticut Environmental and Utilities Contractors Association



a division of Connecticut Construction Industries Association CCIA

CCIA

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Raised Bill 5118, AAC The Underground Damage Prevention Program

Energy and Technology Committee

February 20, 2014

CEUCA/CCIA Position: Supports

Connecticut Environmental and Utilities Contractors Association is comprised of a number of substantial contractors who have a long history of providing quality work for the public benefit and a great deal of experience in performing safe excavation near underground utilities across the state. CEUCA is a division of the Connecticut Construction Industries Association which represents various sectors of the commercial construction industry in Connecticut, including, environmental contractors, utility contractors, building contractors, heavy civil contractors, transportation contractors, and quarry operators that work with and around underground utilities as part of the normal course of conducting business. Safety is a priority at CEUCA, CCIA and with our member organizations. CEUCA always appreciates the opportunity to work with government agencies and officials on all levels to address concerns relating to damage incidents with underground utilities.

CEUCA and CCIA <u>support</u> AAC The Underground Damage Prevention Program, and respectfully request that the committee act in favor of the bill. This bill is a measured proposal that clarifies the coverage of the rules and provides flexibility in the state regulatory process to adjust timeframes, while developments federal rulemaking and administration continue to affect this sector of the industry. This proposal was vetted with stakeholders and comments were taken into consideration as it was being developed. It provides more detailed coverage guidance to contractors performing excavation and demolition operations. It proposes balanced, appropriate amendments to the Connecticut General Statutes that are aimed at reducing the exposure to damage incidents to underground utilities.

Please contact Don Shubert, CCIA President and CEUCA Executive Director at 860-529-6855, or at <u>dshubert@ctconstruction.org</u> if you have any questions or if you need additional information.